IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Confirmation No. DT09 Rec'd PCT/PT0 0 8 DEC 2001

Appl. No.

Unassigned

Applicant Filed

Matthias Muth Concurrently

TC/A.U. Examiner Unassigned Unassigned

Docket No.

DE01 0149US

Customer No.

24738

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Sir:

Extension of Time Statement

The Commissioner is hereby requested and authorized pursuant to 37 CFR §1.136(a)(3), to treat any concurrent or future reply in this application requiring a petition for extension of time for its timely submission, as incorporating a petition for extension of time for the appropriate length of time. Please charge any additional fees which may now or in the future be required in this application, including extension of time fees, but excluding the issue fee unless explicitly requested to do so, and credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 14-1270.

Prior to calculation of the filing fee and examination please amend the aboveidentified application as follows:

Amendments to the Specification there are no amendments in this paper.

Amendments to the Claims begin on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 7 of this paper.